

10/581256  
AP3 Rec'd PCT/PTO 31 MAY 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :  
Mitsuhiko OKUNE et al. : **Mail Stop: PCT**  
Serial No. NEW : Attorney Docket No. 2006\_0772A  
Filed May 31, 2006 :

PLASMA ETCHING METHOD  
[Corresponding to PCT/JP2004/017622  
Filed November 26, 2004]

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

- ☒ each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;
- ☐ each reference previously cited in the international application  
PCT/\_\_\_\_\_; and/or
- ☐ each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No.  
\_\_\_\_\_.

1a. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. D/M.D./  
ATTACHMENT

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

- 1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or  
(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

**the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and**

**the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.**

2. It is hereby certified

- a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any compending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

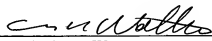
4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
- a. [X] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
  - b. [X] the International Search Report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
  - c. [X] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at pages 2 and 3,
  - d. [X] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
  - e. [X] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:

JP 2001-244325 corresponds to U.S. 2001/0023960;  
JP 2003-533869 corresponds to WO 01/61750;  
JP 2002-542623 corresponds to U.S. 2001/0001743 and WO 00/63960;  
JP 06-349784 corresponds to U.S. 5,498,312;  
JP 2001-284283 corresponds to U.S. 2001/0028093, U.S. 6,633,072, U.S. 6,479,392 and U.S. 2004/033692;  
JP 2000-299310 corresponds U.S. 6,277,756;  
JP 60-050923 corresponds U.S. 4,579,623;  
JP 7-503815 corresponds U.S. 5,501,893.

5. [ ] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitsuhiro OKUNE et al.

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May 31, 2006

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Sheet 1 of 2		INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT					
FORM PTO 1449 (modified)				ATTY DOCKET NO. 2006_0772A		SERIAL NO. NEW	
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE				APPLICANT Mitsuhiro OKUNE et al.			
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				FILING DATE May 31, 2006		GROUP	
Date Submitted to PTO: May 31, 2006							
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	2001/0023960	9/2001	Soga et al.			
	AB	2001/0001743	5/2001	McReynolds			
	AC	5,498,312	3/1996	Laermer et al.			
	AD	2001/0028093	10/2001	Yamazaki et al.			
	AE	6,633,072	10/2003	Yamazaki et al.			
	AF						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AG	2001-244325	9/2001	JP			Abstract
	AH	2003-533869	11/2003	JP			
	AI	01/61750	8/2001	WO			
	AJ	2002/542623	12/2002	JP			
	AK	00/63960	10/2000	WO			
	AL	06/349784	12/1994	JP			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	AM						
	AN						
	AO						
EXAMINER /M.D./				DATE CONSIDERED 07/28/2008			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include cop, this form with next communication to applicant.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /M.D./

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Sheet 2 of 2

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Date Submitted to PTO: May 31, 2006

ATTY DOCKET NO.  
2006\_0772ASERIAL NO.  
NEWAPPLICANT  
Mitsuhiro OKUNE et al.FILING DATE  
May 31, 2006

GROUP

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	BA	6,479,392	11/2002	Yamazaki et al.			
	BB	2004/0033692	2/2004	Yamazaki et al.			
	BC	6,277,756	8/2001	Ohara et al.			
	BD	4,579,623	4/1986	Suzuki et al.			
	BE	5,501,893	3/1996	Laermer et al.			
	BF						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	BG	2001-284283	10/2001	JP			Abstract
	BH	2003-303812	10/2003	JP			Abstract & Partial Translation
	BI	2000-299310	10/2000	JP			Abstract
	BJ	03/030239	4/2003	WO			Abstract & Partial Translation
	BK	60-050923	3/1985	JP			Abstract
	BL	7-503813	4/1995	JP			

## OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	BM	
	BN	
	BO	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include cop this form with next communication to applicant.

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